

VISA FEES

Exchanges of notes at Cairo August 15 and 24 and October 5, 16, and 21, 1933

Entered into force November 1, 1933

*Terminated September 1, 1963, by agreement of June 3 and August 1, 1963*¹

Department of State files

The American Minister to the Minister of Foreign Affairs

No. 422

EXCELLENCY:

I have the honor to refer to Note No. 83/122/10 (30) of June 12, 1933, of Your Excellency's predecessor, in which he was good enough to set forth the schedule of visa fees imposed by the Royal Egyptian Government for entry or transit through Egypt as follows:

- (1) Visa of passports for entry into Egypt P.T. 38.575 (10 gold francs)
- (2) Visa of passports for transit through Egypt P.T. 3.8575 (1 gold franc)

It is observed that these fees are applicable to the citizens or subjects of those countries which impose a like schedule of fees in respect of Egyptian subjects, those countries imposing higher rates being treated upon the basis of the principle of reciprocity.

In consideration of the principle of reciprocity governing the application of fees for the visaing of passports by the Royal Egyptian Government, I have the honor to state that, having acquainted my Government with the contents of the communication under reference, I have been authorized by my Government to conclude a reciprocal arrangement with the Royal Egyptian Government by exchange of notes in the following terms:

1. The Government of the United States of America will, from the fifteenth of October, 1933,² collect no fee for executing applications for the visaing of passports in the case of subjects of the Royal Egyptian Government desiring to visit the United States (including the insular possessions)

¹ 14 UST 1191; TIAS 5416.

² See also note dated Oct. 16, 1933, *post*, p. 1345.

who are not "immigrants" as defined in the Immigration Act of the United States of 1924;³ namely:

"(1) a government official, his family, attendants, servants, and employees; (2) an alien visiting the United States temporarily as a tourist or temporarily for business or pleasure; (3) an alien in continuous transit through the United States; (4) an alien lawfully admitted to the United States who later goes in transit from one part of the United States to another through foreign contiguous territory; (5) a bona fide alien seaman serving as such on a vessel arriving at a port of the United States and seeking to enter temporarily the United States solely in the pursuit of his calling as a seaman; and (6) an alien entitled to enter the United States solely to carry on trade under and in pursuance of the provisions of a present existing treaty of commerce and navigation."

and from the same date the Royal Egyptian Government will collect no fee for executing applications for the visaing of passports of non-immigrant citizens of the United States of like classes desiring to visit Egypt.

2. From the fifteenth day of October, 1933, the Government of the United States of America will collect no fee for the visaing of passports in the case of subjects of the Royal Egyptian Government desiring to visit the United States (including the insular possessions) who are non-immigrants within the meaning of subdivision (1) of Section 3 of the Immigration Act of 1924; and from the same date the Royal Egyptian Government will collect no fee for the visaing of passports of non-immigrant citizens of the United States as therein defined.

3. From the fifteenth day of October, 1933, the Government of the United States of America will collect a fee of two dollars only for the visaing of passports in the case of subjects of the Royal Egyptian Government desiring to visit the United States (including the insular possessions) who are non-immigrant aliens within the meaning of subdivisions (2), (4), (5) and (6) of Section 3 of the Immigration Act of 1924; and from the same date the Royal Egyptian Government will collect a fee of the equivalent of two dollars only for the visaing of passports of non-immigrant citizens of the United States as therein defined.

4. From the fifteenth day of October, 1933, the Government of the United States of America will collect a fee of twenty cents only for the visaing of passports in the case of subjects of the Royal Egyptian Government desiring to visit the United States (including the insular possessions) who are non-immigrants within the meaning of subdivision (3) of Section 3 of the Immigration Act of 1924; and from the same date the Royal Egyptian Government will collect a fee of the equivalent of twenty cents only for the

³ 43 Stat. 153.

visaing of passports of non-immigrant citizens of the United States as therein defined.

5. It is understood that non-immigrant visas which are issued by the two Governments to the nationals of the other will be valid for twelve months, provided the passport to which the visa is affixed is valid for that period, as well as being valid for any number of entrances, within the period of the validity of the visa, so long as the non-immigrant status may be maintained by the holder. The period of validity of the visa relates only to the period within which it may be used and not to the length of the alien's stay.

I avail myself, etc.

W. M. JARDINE

CAIRO, August 15, 1933

His Excellency

SALIB SAMY BEY

*Royal Egyptian Minister
for Foreign Affairs
Cairo*

The Minister of Foreign Affairs to the American Minister

[TRANSLATION]

MINISTRY FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Department of Administrative Affairs

No. 83/122/10(46)

CAIRO, August 24, 1933

MR. MINISTER:

In reply to the letter of Your Excellency No. 426 of the 15th instant, by which you were good enough to communicate to me the proposals of the Government of the United States of America relative to the administration of visa fees in America and Egypt, I have the honor to bring to Your Excellency's attention the following:

With regard to proposal (1):

Egyptian Consulates collect no fee for the visa application, this fee not being provided for in the Schedule of Fees of Egyptian consular offices, approved by Decree of October 28, 1925.

With regard to proposal (2):

Cases for exemption from the fees for visas are determined by Article 63 of the Consular Instructions promulgated by an Order of March 12, 1929, the text of which is as follows:

"Exemption from the fees for visas, affixed to foreign passports, shall be accorded in the following cases:

“(1) To holders of foreign diplomatic passports;

“(2) To persons of the following categories:

“(a) Foreign persons of note, savants, religious workers, official delegates of scientific and athletic missions, and these on condition that a request for exemption should be made by the State or by the Diplomatic or Consular Agents to which they are subject, or by the Egyptian Chief of Mission on which the Consulate depends; this exemption is accorded as a matter of courtesy.

“(b) Agents and employees of foreign diplomatic and consular corps, the members of their families and their suites, and these on the basis of reciprocity.

“(c) The destitute.”

With regard to proposals (3) and (4):

In view of the proposal made by the Government of the United States of America to reduce to two dollars the fee to be collected for a visa to enter America, affixed to Egyptian passports, and to twenty cents for a transit visa, it being understood that these fees do not exceed the fees provided for by the Egyptian schedule, the Royal Government, on its behalf, is disposed to reduce the fees to be collected for visas affixed to American passports, to ten gold francs for the entry visa and to one gold franc for the transit visa.

A transit visa is defined by Articles 22, 23, and 24 of the Regulations for Passports and Visa, promulgated by Decree of December 8, 1928, to wit:

Article 22. A transit visa is accorded to foreigners subject to the following conditions:

(1) That Egypt necessarily lies on the route which the traveller must follow to reach his country of destination and provided that there exists no direct route by which he can reach that country without the necessity of passing through Egyptian territory. First class passengers of good financial standing who, for purposes of convenience, prefer the route via Egypt to the direct one, are exempted from the above restriction.

(2) That the passport is endorsed with entry or transit visas for the countries of destination.

(3) That the traveller is in possession of passage tickets necessary for his journey.

Travellers whose financial position leaves room for no doubt as to their ability to continue their journey and who give acceptable reasons justifying their failure to procure the necessary tickets and visas, are exempted from conditions (2) and (3). In such cases, the visa should be granted and the Ministry of the Interior immediately notified.

In cases other than the above, the Ministry of the Interior should be consulted before a visa is issued.

Article 23. A transit visa gives the holder no right to remain in Egypt except for the time necessary for resuming the journey. Travellers are not to apply, during their sojourn in Egypt, for an extension beyond the necessary time except in cases of force majeure such as sickness.

Article 24. If a ship is available in an Egyptian port to which the traveller can tranship without disembarking in Egyptian territory, he should do so if called upon so to do.

With regard to proposal (5):

The Egyptian Government accepts the proposal of the Government of the United States of America as formulated in the letter of Your Excellency, with the understanding that the visas granted by the two Governments shall be valid for twelve months from the date of their issuance, provided that the passport to which the visa is affixed is valid for the same period. The visa shall give its holder the right to make an indefinite number of trips during the period of its validity.

If the Government of the United States decides to put in force the application of the fees which it proposed beginning October 15, 1933, I would appreciate it if Your Excellency would be good enough to inform me in time to take the necessary measures with a view to incorporating the prescribed fees in the Schedule of Fees to be collected by Egyptian consular officers, on and after the same date.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurance of my high consideration.

The Minister for Foreign Affairs:
SALIB SAMY

The American Chargé d'Affaires ad interim to the Minister of Foreign Affairs

No. 442

CAIRO, October 5, 1933

EXCELLENCY:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of Note No. 83/122/10 (46) of August 24, 1933, of Your Excellency's predecessor in which he was good enough to express the concurrence of the Royal Egyptian Government in the proposals made by the Government of the United States of America in respect of the reciprocal application of a new schedule of fees governing the issuance of visas to nonimmigrants by each Government to nationals of the other.

Having acquainted my Government with the contents of the Note under

reference, I have been instructed to inform Your Excellency that, as of October 15, 1933, the Government of the United States of America will apply the new schedule of fees for the issuance of visas to nonimmigrant Egyptian subjects in accordance with the terms of the Legation's Note No. 422 of August 15, 1933, as concurred in by the Royal Egyptian Government in the Note under acknowledgment from His Excellency Salib Samy Bey.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to Your Excellency the assurance of my high consideration.

J. RIVES CHILDS
Chargé d'Affaires ad interim

His Excellency
ABDEL FATTAH YEHIA PASHA
Royal Egyptian Minister for Foreign Affairs
Cairo

*The American Chargé d'Affaires ad interim to the Prime Minister and
Minister of Foreign Affairs*

No. 445

CAIRO, October 16, 1933

EXCELLENCY:

I have the honor to refer to the exchange of Notes which has taken place touching upon the reciprocal application by the Government of the United States of America and the Royal Egyptian Government of a new schedule of fees governing the issuance of visas to nonimmigrants, and to the oral communication conveyed to me on October 12, 1933, regarding the inability of the Royal Egyptian Government to make the reciprocal agreement effective before November 1, 1933.

Having informed my Government accordingly, I have been instructed to notify Your Excellency that application of the visa fee agreement on the part of the United States of America will likewise be effective as of November 1, 1933.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to Your Excellency the assurance of my high consideration.

J. RIVES CHILDS
Chargé d'Affaires ad interim

His Excellency
ABDEL FATTAH YEHIA PASHA
*Royal Egyptian Prime Minister and
Minister for Foreign Affairs*
Ministry for Foreign Affairs
Cairo

The Ministry for Foreign Affairs to the American Legation

[TRANSLATION]

MINISTRY FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Division of Administrative Affairs

No. 83/122/10 (53)

CAIRO, *October 21, 1933*

NOTE

The Ministry for Foreign Affairs has the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the note No. 445 of October 16, 1933, from the Legation of the United States of America relative to the date on which the new visa fees will be effective to the United States of America and Egypt, i.e., November 1st, 1933.

On this same occasion the Ministry for Foreign Affairs has the honor to transmit to the Legation of the United States of America a copy of the translation in French of the arrête made to that effect on October 12, 1933.

The Ministry for Foreign Affairs takes this occasion to renew to the Legation of the United States of America the assurances of its high consideration.

To the LEGATION OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

[TRANSLATION]

MINISTRY FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Division of Administrative Affairs

No. 83/122/10

ORDER MODIFYING THE TAX TO BE CHARGED FOR VISAS TO ENTER EGYPT
PUT ON AMERICAN PASSPORTS

The Minister for Foreign Affairs

Considering the order of November 5, 1925 fixing a fee of P.T. 200 (10 dollars gold) charged for the visa to enter Egypt put on American passports;

Considering the correspondence exchanged between the Legation of the United States of America in Egypt and the Ministry for Foreign Affairs, on the subject of the desire of the Government of the United States of America to reduce to only \$2.00 the fee for visa to enter America put on Egyptian passports; correspondence of which the last is a letter No. 442 of October 5, 1933 from the Chargé d'Affaires ad interim of the same Legation.

ORDER:

ART. I. The Order of November 5, 1925, above cited, is annulled. There will be collected a fee equivalent to 10 gold francs for a visa to enter Egypt put on American passports.

ART. II. This Order will become effective as from November 1st, 1933.

S. ABDEL FATTAH YEHIA

BULKELEY, *October 12, 1933*